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EUROPEAN MARINE MOLLUSCA: NOTES ON LESS WELL-KNOWN SPECIES. IX. *PTEROMERIS JOZINAE* SPEC. NOV. (= *CARDITA INCURVA* JEFFREYS NOM. NUD.) (**)

KEY WORDS: Mollusca, Carditidae, New sp., Recent, Mediterranean.

Summary

A new recent Bivalve from the Mediterranean is described as *Pteromeris jozinae*. This species is known from the North Africa Coast (ex Shearwater Expedition, 1873) as *Cardita incurva* JEFFREYS nom. nud., not *Cardita incurva* BUVIGNER, 1852, and from recent findings along the Coast of Israel (Haifa Region). One valve was found at Djerba, Tunisia.

Riassunto

Viene descritto il bivalve mediterraneo attuale *Pteromeris jozinae*. Questa specie era nota per la costa nord-africana (Shearwater Sped., 1873) come *Cardita incurva* JEFFREYS nom. nud. (non *Cardita incurva* BUVIGNER). Si sono avuti recenti ritrovamenti lungo le coste israeliane (regione di Haifa) nonché una valva rinvenuta a Djerba, Tunisia.

Recent dredgings in Haifa Bay, Israel, have provided a few specimens and several loose valves of a small bivalve, which is apparently closely related to *Pteromeris corbis* (PHILIPPI, 1836), a well-known species of the Carditidae. It was clear at once, that the present species differs markedly from *P. corbis* by showing radial instead of concentric sculpture. More profound study revealed differences in hinge-structure as well.

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(**) Lavoro accettato il 10 novembre 1984.

Although its locality could suggest the species in question to be a Red Sea immigrant, this turned out to be not the case. In fact recent specimens have been found already in 1873, in W. Saloom Bay, by the Shearwater Expedition, at depths from 40 to 120 fms. A sample in the United States National Museum of Natural History (USNM 202068), containing two complete specimens, 17 left and 15 right valves, originating from this expedition, bears the label « *Cardita incurva* Jeffreys ». However, *Cardita incurva* JEFFREYS, 1874, is a nomen nudum. This species has also been mentioned by MONTEROSATO (1874: 252; 1875: 15; 1878: 70), but this author merely cites the Shearwater-material. In 1874, however, MONTEROSATO states, that a fossil shell found by him at Monte Pellegrino, and published in 1872 as « *Cardita* sp. », is identical with the recent ones. None of the citations by Monterosato can be considered a valid description, so that *Cardita incurva* remains a nomen nudum. The validly described *Cardita incurva* BUVIGNIER, 1852, has nothing do with the species under discussion. I therefore describe this species as follows.

Pteromeris jozinae spec. nov.

Shell small, beaks very much incurved and clearly opisthogyrous. The outside surface is decorated by about fifteen radial ribs, which are broad, with very small interstitial grooves in between. Every rib shows many concentric scales, from 10 to 15 per millimeter.

There are two diverging cardinals with a broadly triangular gap between them in the left valve. In the right valve there is only one, very big and broadly triangular cardinal, as well as a list-like denticle along the back-side, bordering the external ligament.

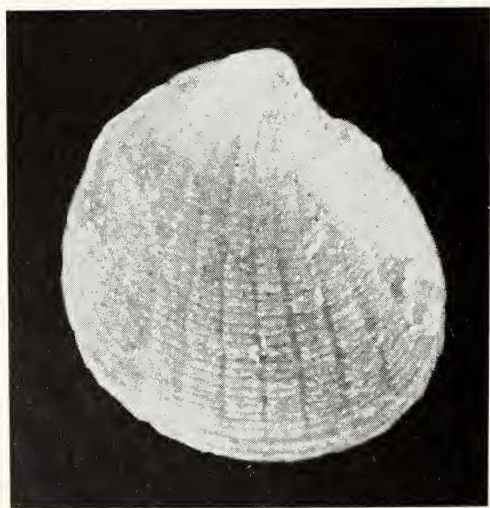


Fig. 1 - *Pteromeris jozinae* spec. nov. (15x). Outside of the holotype; USNM 202068.

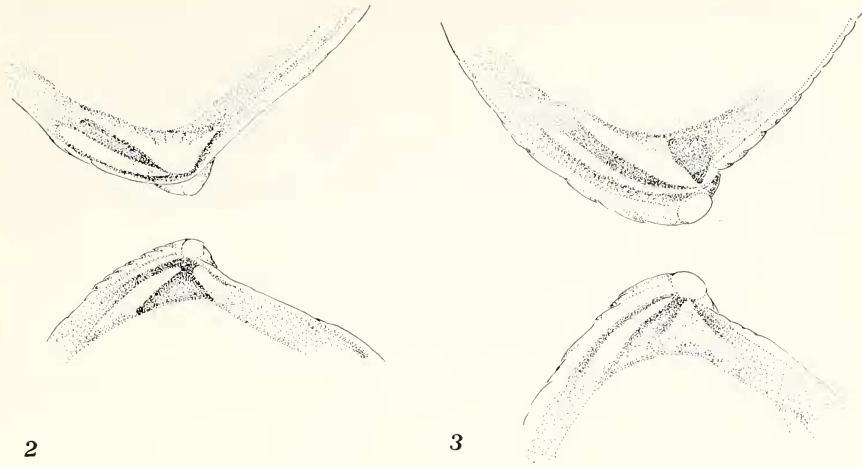


Fig. 2 - Hinge of *Pteromeris jozinae* (46 x). Right valve at the top, left valve at the bottom. Paratype, Van Aartsen coll. 18139. Haifa Bay, Israel.

Fig. 3 - Hinge of *Pteromeris corbis* (46 x). Right valve at the top, left valve at the bottom. Van Aartsen coll. 18138. Haifa Bay, Israel.

Type specimens. Holotype: 3.5 x 3.5 mm; (USNM 202068) ex Shearwater Expedition, W. Saloom Bay. Paratypes (in the author's collection if only a no. is indicated): Type locality (USNM 202068/1 spec., 17 l.v. & 15 r.v.); Haifa Bay, at 9-75 m depth (Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Histoire, Leiden, 55656/1 l.v. & 1 r.v.; coll. Carrozza/1 spec. & 1 l.v.; 13206/1 r.v., 17529/2 l.v.; 18139/1 l.v. & 1 r.v., 18506/1 r.v.); Carmel Beach, Haifa (480A/1 spec., 2 l.v. & 1 r.v.); Tel Shiqmona, Israel (18548/1 r.v.); Djerba, Tunisia (11417/1 r.v. in poor condition).

The species is named after my wife. Without her continuous support, in many ways, I could not have done all the studies in this fascinating field.

In figure 1 the holotype is represented. *Pteromeris jozinae* differs from the closely related *P. corbis* not only the outside sculpture of the valves, which is radial in the former and concentric in the latter species, but also in the form of the hinge teeth, as shown in figs. 2 and 3. As can be seen from these figures, the cardinal in the right valve is much broader in *P. jozinae* than in *P. corbis*. Consequently, the anterior cardinal in the left valve in *P. jozinae* is much less pronounced than the corresponding one in *P. corbis*.

It should be mentioned that in Haifa Bay, Israel, the only locality from where I have seen specimens of recent date, both *P. jozinae* and *P. corbis* occur.

Many thanks are due to my friends H. Hoenselaar, who made the drawings of the hinges of both species, A. Verduin, who made the photograph of the olootype and Al. Barash, who donated the material from Haifa Bay. I am also grateful for the kind cooperation of Dr. J. Rosewater, curator of the United States National Museum, Washington, U.S.A., who sent me the material on loan.

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